

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-03

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EA-06 L-01 H-02 INR-05 PM-03

PRS-01 SP-02 NSC-05 NSCE-00 OES-02 DODE-00 CIAE-00

OMB-01 ACDA-10 IO-03 /059 R

DRAFTED BY EA/K:PMAYHEW; EB/ORB/FSE:DSWILSON:

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EB - MR KATZ

EA/K - MR O'DONOHUE

EA - MR EDMOND

----- 117820

R 210416Z MAY 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SEOUL

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 118348

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS-

TAGS: ENRG, KS

SUBJECT: KOREAN ENERGY PROBLEM

REF: (A) SEOUL 1371; (B) SEOUL 3247

1. WE HAVE EXAMINED WAYS IN WHICH WE MIGHT BE OF ASSISTANCE IN ATTEMPTING TO ASSURE THE ROKG AN ADEQUATE SUPPLY OF OIL IN THE EVENT OF AN INTERRUPTION OF SUPPLY DUE TO A GENERAL EMBARGO, A SELECTIVE EMBARGO, OR ARISING FROM NORTH-SOUTH HOSTILITIES (REF B).

2. FOR REASONS SET FORTH IN STATE 36910, NEITHER DIRECT ROKG PARTICIPATION IN AN EMERGENCY SHARING PROGRAM, NOR AN IEA GUARANTEE TO THE ROKG IS POSSIBLE IN THE EVENT

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OF A GENERAL OIL EMBARGO. POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS WITHIN

INDIVIDUAL IEA MEMBER COUNTRIES MAKE IT VIRTUALLY IMPOS-
SIBLE TO SEEK SUCH AN ASSURANCE ON THE PART OF THE IEA.
HOWEVER, THE EMBASSY MAY INFORM THE ROKG THAT IN THE EVENT
OF A GENERAL OIL EMBARGO THE US WILL DO ITS BEST TO ASSURE
THAT THE OPERATION OF THE IEA SHARING PROGRAM DOES NOT
DISADVANTAGE THE ROKG, I.E., THAT THE ROKG COULD EXPECT
TO RECEIVE NO LESS THAN ITS PRO-RATED SHARE OF OIL AVAIL-
ABLE TO NON-IEA MEMBERS.

3. YOU MAY ALSO INFORM THE ROKG THAT IN THE EVENT OF
A SELECTIVE EMBARGO AGAINST IT, WE WOULD MAKE EVERY
EFFORT TO ASSURE CONTINUANCE OF A NORMAL SUPPLY OF OIL
TO THEM. SUCH A COMMITMENT DOES NOT CONSTITUTE A FORMAL
BILATERAL OIL SHARING AGREEMENT, HOWEVER.
(FYI: PRESENTLY WE HAVE NO SUCH STANDING COMMITMENT
TO ANY NON-IEA COUNTRY AND CANNOT AT THIS POINT ENVISAGE
CIRCUMSTANCES WHEREBY SUCH A FORMAL COMMITMENT WOULD BE
MADE IN ADVANCE. END FYI)

4. IN THE EVENT OF NORTH-SOUTH HOSTILITIES, WE WOULD
OBVIOUSLY MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO SEE THAT THE ROKG HAD
A SUFFICIENT SUPPLY OF POL.

INGERSOLL

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